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Express Mail No. EV 657811546 US

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket: 15436.131.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
)
Zhong, et al.)
)
Serial No.: 10/724,471)
) Art Unit
Filing Date: November 26, 2003) 2874
)
Confirmation No.: 9866)
)
For: OPTICAL ADD/DROP PATCH CORD)
)
Examiner: James D. Stein)
)
Customer No.: 022913)

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action mailed May 25, 2005 (the "Office Action"), the Examiner set forth an Election of Species Requirement that identified what the Examiner has characterized as two (2) patentably distinct species of the claimed invention. In particular, the Examiner suggested in the Office Action that the present application contains claims directed to the following two species:

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Ser. No. 10/724,471

- I: Figure 4 ("thin film add/drop module"); and
- II: Figures 2-3 ("optical add/drop patch cord with casing and various fibers coupled thereto").

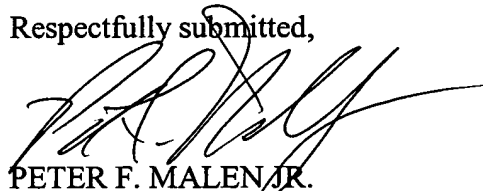
Responsive to the Election of Species Requirement set forth in the Office Action, Applicant hereby elects Species II (Figures 2-3) for examination, without traverse. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-12, 14, 15 and 18-21 are readable on Species II (Figures 2-3).

Applicant's election herein is made without prejudice. As noted by the Examiner, upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141.

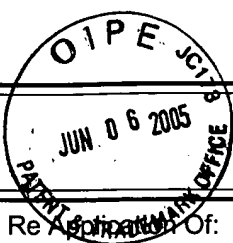
An action on the merits of all the claims and a Notice of Allowance thereof are respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner wishes to discuss any of the matters contemplated hereby, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone conversation with the undersigned.

DATED this 7th day of June, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



PETER F. MALEN JR.
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 45,576
Customer No.: 022913
Telephone No. 801-533-9800



**TRANSMITTAL LETTER
(General - Patent Pending)**

Docket No.
15436.131.1

In Re Application Of: **Zhong, et al.**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/724,471	November 26, 2003	James D. Stein	022913	2874	9866

Title: **OPTICAL ADD/DROP PATCH CORD**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

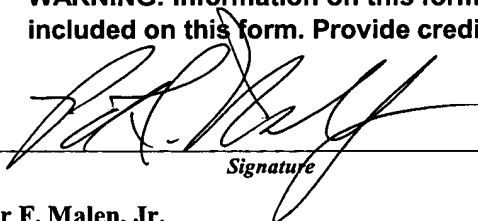
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Response to Election of Species Requirement (2 pgs); Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail"; and Postcard

in the above identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **23-3178** as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of _____
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.



Signature

**Peter F. Malen, Jr.
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 45,576
Telephone No. 801-533-9800**

Dated: June 7, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on

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Applicant(s): Zhong, et al.

Docket No.

15436.131.1

Application No.

10/724,471

Filing Date

November 26, 2003

Examiner

James D. Stein

Customer No.

022913

Group Art Unit

2874

OPTICAL ADD/DROP PATCH CORD

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